

What is claimed is:

1. A unitary disposable absorbent article comprising:

an absorbent core having a garment surface and a body surface;

a liquid permeable topsheet positioned adjacent said body surface of said absorbent core;

a liquid impermeable backsheet positioned adjacent said garment surface of said absorbent core;

and

an elastically contractible dual cuff having a proximate end and a distal end, said dual cuff being joined to said article by a cuff bond, said dual cuff having a first cuff and a second cuff, said first cuff being disposed between said proximate end and said cuff bond, said second cuff
5 being disposed between said cuff bond and said distal end, said dual cuff being constructed of a continuous cuff material and enclosed by said cuff bond,

wherein said distal end is formed by said cuff material being folded, wherein said proximate end is formed by said cuff material being folded;

wherein said first cuff envelopes at least one first elastic, wherein said first elastic has a first and
10 second end, wherein said first elastic is secured to said first cuff near said first and second ends;

wherein said second cuff envelopes at least one second elastic, wherein said second elastic has a first and second end, wherein said second elastic is secured to said second cuff near said first and second ends;

wherein said first and second cuffs are barrier cuffs.

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2. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said first cuff envelopes at least one elastic.

3. The absorbent article of claim 2 wherein said elastic is operatively associated with said first cuff by securing it with an elastic attachment element.

4. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said second cuff envelopes at least one elastic.

5. The absorbent article of claim 4 wherein said elastic is operatively associated with said second cuff by securing it with an elastic attachment element.

6. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said article is a disposable diaper.

7. The absorbent article of claim 6 wherein said disposable diaper is a prefastened diaper.

8. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said continuous cuff material is constructed of a lesser-water-permeable material with a more-water-permeable material placed inside said lesser-water-permeable material.

9. The absorbent article of claim 8 wherein said lesser-water-permeable material is a spunbound material.

10. The absorbent article of claim 8 wherein said more-water-permeable material is a meltblown material.

11. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said continuous cuff material is constructed of a spunbound-meltblown laminate.

12. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said continuous cuff material is constructed of a series of various materials.

13. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said first cuff stands taller than said second cuff.

14. The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein said second cuff stands taller than said first cuff.

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15. A unitary disposable absorbent article comprising:

an absorbent core having a garment surface and a body surface;

a liquid permeable topsheet positioned adjacent said body surface of said absorbent core;

a liquid impermeable backsheet positioned adjacent said garment surface of said absorbent core;

and

an elastically contractible dual cuff having a proximate end and a distal end, said dual cuff being joined to said article by a cuff bond, said dual cuff having a first cuff and a second cuff, said first cuff being disposed between said proximate end and said cuff bond, said second cuff being disposed between said cuff bond and said distal end, said dual cuff being constructed of

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a continuous cuff material and enclosed by said cuff bond,

wherein said distal end is formed by said cuff material being folded, wherein said proximate end is formed by said cuff material being folded;

wherein said first cuff envelopes at least one first elastic, wherein said first elastic has a first and second end, wherein said first elastic is secured to said first cuff near said first and second ends;

5 wherein said second cuff envelopes at least one second elastic, wherein said second elastic has a first and second end, wherein said second elastic is secured to said second cuff near said first and second ends;

wherein said dual cuff is bonded to said article by a single bond.

16. The absorbent article of claim 15 wherein said single bond is said cuff bond.